

Mr. Ringgold took issue with his colleague, (Mr. Wickes,) on the assertion that the object of the assembling of this Convention was to reform the judiciary. He (Mr. R.) had never understood that such was the object; he had not heard it either from the people or from the press. The object for which they were assembled was to obliterate from the organic law of the State those odious, proscriptive features which were forced upon them by federal bayonets. He had never heard one voice in his county (Kent) raised in regard to the judiciary, but had said nothing better could be done than to adopt the constitution of 1851.

Mr. Hayden said the judiciary under the old constitution excited the ire of the demagogues of the reform party; the cry of rotation in office was raised against the life tenure, but he had never heard of anyone saying that it was less democratic to have three judges on the bench than one. Governor Lowe and a few of his associates were the only ones who attacked the judiciary system before 1851, and that gentleman had afterwards expressed his regret at the length to which he had gone. The sentiment of the people of the State was largely in favor of the three-judge system.

Without concluding, Mr. Hayden gave way, and on motion of Mr. Maulsby, the committee rose, reported progress, and asked leave to sit again.

The Convention adjourned until Monday.

FIFTY-SECOND DAY.

ANNAPOLIS, MONDAY, JULY 22.

The Convention met at 10½ o'clock, and in the absence of the President, on motion of Hon. Joshua Vansant, the Hon. John B. Brooke, of Prince George's, was called to the chair. Prayer was then offered up by Rev. Mr. Hammond.

Mr. Garey announced that the secretary of the Convention, Col. Milton Y. Kidd, was detained in Baltimore by severe illness, and on motion of Mr. Rider, Mr. Wilkinson, of Baltimore city, was requested to act as secretary. On motion of Mr. Garey, Mr. Groome, of Cecil, was re-